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<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/658,580	HANER ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Dixomara Vargas	2859	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**  
 All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

- 1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 06/22/05.
- 2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4 and 6-32.
- 3. ☒ The drawings filed on 09 September 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
- 4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    - 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    - 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    - 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
  - \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

- 5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  - 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
- 7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Allowable Subject Matter*

1. Claims 1-4 and 6-32 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
  - a. With respect to claim 1, the claim has been found allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art of record fails to teach or fairly suggest a NMR flow cell assembly for holding a NMR sample fluid comprising an internal flow cell adhesive-separation barrier extending between the surface of the flow cell and the connector, position<sup>ed</sup> to separate the flow cell adhesive from an interior surface of the cell whereby said adhesive is isolated from contact with said sample fluid in combination with the remaining limitations of the claim.
  - b. With respect to claim 14, the claim has been found allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art of record fails to teach or fairly suggest a NMR flow cell assembly for holding a NMR sample fluid comprising an annular adhesive-separation barrier extending between the flow cell and each pair of connectors and said adhesive is isolated from contact with said sample fluid in combination with the remaining limitations of the claim.
  - c. With respect to claim 17, the claim has been found allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art of record fails to teach or fairly suggest a NMR probe comprising an annular adhesive-separation barrier extending between the flow cell and

each pair of connectors whereby said adhesive is isolated from contact with said sample fluid in combination with the remaining limitations of the claim.

d. With respect to claim 18, the claim has been found allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art of record fails to teach or fairly suggest a NMR method comprising inserting a MR sample fluid into the flow cell assembly that comprises an annular adhesive-separation barrier extending between the flow cell and each pair of connectors whereby said adhesive is isolated from contact with said sample fluid in combination with the remaining limitations of the claim.

e. With respect to claim 21, the claim has been found allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art of record fails to teach or fairly suggest a NMR flow cell assembly for holding a NMR sample fluid comprising a sealing barrier positioned between a transverse end surface of the flow cell and a transverse surface of the connector for sealing an interface an interface between the flow cell and the connector whereby said adhesive is isolated from contact with said sample fluid in combination with the remaining limitations of the claim.

f. With respect to claim 29, the claim has been found allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art of record fails to teach or fairly suggest a NMR probe comprising a sealing barrier positioned between a transverse end surface of the flow cell and a transverse surface of the connector for sealing an interface an interface between the flow cell and the connector whereby said adhesive is isolated from contact with said sample fluid in combination with the remaining limitations of the claim.

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g. With respect to claim 30, the claim has been found allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art of record fails to teach or fairly suggest a NMR method comprising inserting a MR sample fluid into the flow cell assembly that comprises a sealing barrier positioned between a transverse end surface of the flow cell and a transverse surface of the connector for sealing an interface an interface between the flow cell and the connector whereby said adhesive is isolated from contact with said sample fluid in combination with the remaining limitations of the claim.

h. With respect to claims 2-4, 6-13, 15-16, 19-20, 22-28 and 31-32, the claims have been allowed due to their dependency on claims 1, 14, 18, 21 and 30 above.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dixomara Vargas whose telephone number is (571) 272-2252. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 8:00 am. to 4:30 pm..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Diego Gutierrez can be reached on (571) 272-2245. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Dixomara Vargas  
Art Unit 2859  
July 20, 2005



Diego Gutierrez  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Technology Center 2800